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certified public accountant licensed to practice at least in the State of California. On information and belief, Doskocil is a citizen of the State of California.

#### **JURISDICTION**

5. The Court has jurisdiction of this Complaint, pursuant to 28 USC 1332, as the parties are citizens of different states and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.

# **VENUE**

6. Venue is proper in the Northern District of California under 28 USC 1391(a), in that a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in said District.

### FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE)

- 7. Defendants Rager, Rossi, and Doskocil, and each of them, rendered to Plaintiff accounting, income tax planning, income tax return preparation, and audit representation services with respect to Plaintiff's Federal and State income tax obligations and returns for calendar years 1999, 2000, and 2001.
- 8. Defendants Rager, Rossi, and Doskocil, and each of them, failed to exercise the proper degree of knowledge and skill common to Certified Public Accountants. The negligence of Defendants Rager, Rossi, and Doskocil, and each of them, was a substantial contributing factor to the issuance to Plaintiff, by the Internal Revenue Service, of notices of deficiencies and assessments of additional taxes, interest and penalties due in amounts not yet determined exactly, but totaling in the millions of dollars, and further to Plaintiff being required to retain the services of other professionals to assist him in negotiating with, and contesting, the notices of deficiencies and assessments of the Internal Revenue Service, all to Plaintiff's damage in an amount to be determined at trial.

# **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff prays judgment as follows:

- 1. For damages, according to proof;
- 2. For costs;
- 3. For interest; and
- 4. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem proper.

# **Demand for Jury Trial**

Case 5:07-cv-03101-JW Page 3 of 3 Document 18 Filed 11/21/2007 Dated: November 20, 2007 RICE & BRONITSKY By: /s/ Paul E. Rice Paul E. Rice Attorneys for Plaintiff Steven Nerayoff RICE & BRONITSKY 350 Cambridge Ave., Suite 225 Palo Alto, CA 94306 (650) 289-9088